



# Syracuse City, Utah

## A Report to Our Citizens 2015-2016

### MISSION STATEMENT

To provide quality, affordable services for its citizens, while promoting community pride, fostering economic development, and preparing for the future.



### Syracuse City Public Works

Did you know that Syracuse City has its own public works department? The department is responsible for engineering, cemetery records, infrastructure inspections, as well as the upkeep and maintenance of our culinary water system, secondary water system, sewer system, storm drain system, land drain system, garbage collection, roads, street lights, and city buildings.

The majority of our culinary water is purchased from Weber Basin Water and is piped into the city. The city also has the capability to pump water from our wells. In the early 1980's, the city built a large water tower on property in Freeport. This made it possible to purchase our water and store it instead of being dependent solely upon pumping the water from our wells.

As the city grew, the need for irrigation water presented a problem. Farmers were reluctant to sell water shares even if their land became developed. Therefore, in the mid 1980's, the city decided to build a secondary water system to pump pressurized irrigation water to every home in Syracuse. Developers were required to provide the city with secondary water shares if they wanted to develop new homes. This action relieved the problem of using culinary water to irrigate lawns and gardens.

The first discussions of a sewage system came about in 1942. It was a united effort of all northern Davis County cities and Hill Air Force Base. The first sewer lines were built in 1943. At the time, there was no sewage treatment plant. All the raw sewage dumped into the lake. The North Davis County Sewer Disposal Plant was finally completed in 1954 and all cities were required to participate.

For the first 50 years of the community of Syracuse, all garbage was either burned or buried. Later, all citizens were required to dispose of their own garbage at the landfill. Automated garbage pickup did not come to Syracuse until 1987.

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### Demographic Information

	2014	2015	2016
Population	25,775	26,639	27,395
Per Capita Income	\$24,901	\$25,625	\$26,687
Unemployment Rate	3.5%	3.4%	3.4%
Full-Time City Employees	68	71	75
Antelope Island Visits	312,933	380,611	398,197

# How We Have Progressed

*Fiscal year 2016*



## 2016 Highlights

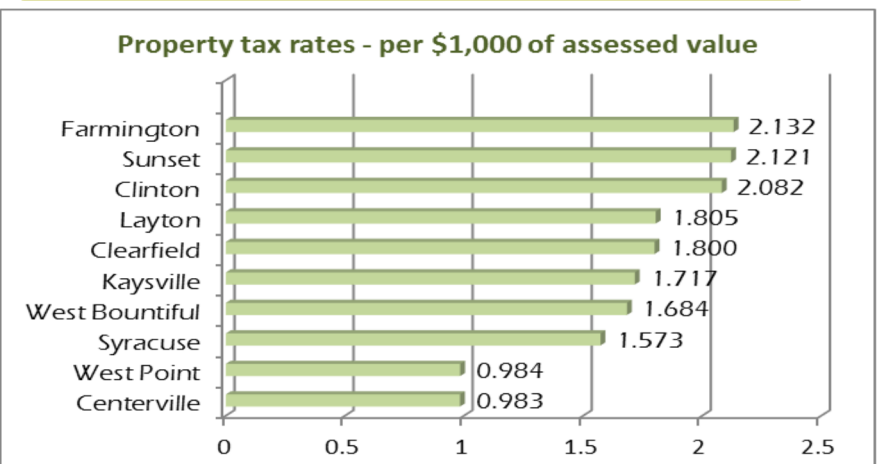
- The City was awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the 6th year in a row from the Government Finance Officers Association.
- The City refinanced its 2014 Municipal Building Authority bonds with a lower interest rate saving the City an estimated \$798,000 over the remaining life of the bonds.
- The City completed over \$5.6 million dollars in capital projects throughout the city. This included widening 3000 west, Rock Creek Park sports fields, Banbury Drive and Smedley Acres road improvement projects.



## Performance Measures & Statistics

Fiscal Year	2014	2015	2016
<b>Police</b>			
Total Incidents reported	12,085	14,320	17,158
Citations written	1,773	1,677	1,430
Total violations on citations	2,441	2,406	1,963
Theft Incidents	218	291	270
Assault incidents	83	77	79
<b>Fire</b>			
Number of calls dispatched	805	910	982
Average response time	5:48	5:48	5:42
<b>Streets</b>			
Street sweeping miles	812	775	1180
Street sweeping hours	291	291	438
<b>Water</b>			
Service connections	7,184	7,330	7,540
Average daily consumption (gallons)	1,928,000	1,930,000	1,661,331
<b>Recreation</b>			
Community Center memberships	1,172	998	924
Sports program participants	4,105	4,014	4,709
<b>Community Development</b>			
Number of new homes	212	174	299

## Property Taxes - How do we stack up?



The measures reported on this page were included based on information collected by the City. What would you like to see reported on in this page? Please let us know by contacting Stephen Marshall at 801-614-9621 or by email at [smarshall@syracuseut.com](mailto:smarshall@syracuseut.com).

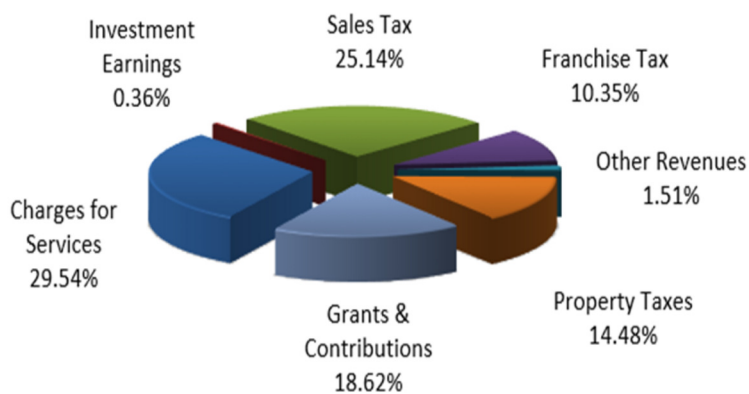


# Our Finances - Revenues vs. Expenses

## What are the costs for servicing the citizens and how are those costs paid?

The General Fund is the primary operating fund of the City. It exists to account for the resources used to pay for the services traditionally associated with local government. Included are police and fire protection, parks and recreation, planning and economic development, general administration of the City, and any other activity for which a special fund has not been created. For a complete review of all City Funds please refer to the website below.

## Revenues by Source - General Fund

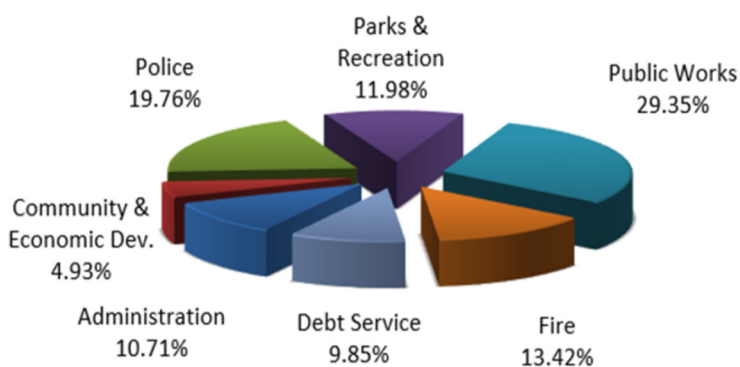


Fiscal Year	2014	2015	2016
Sales Tax	\$3,096,540	\$3,309,455	\$3,519,586
Franchise Tax *	0	0	1,448,961
Charges for Services	3,523,990	3,108,326	4,135,722
Property Taxes	1,918,942	1,923,133	2,027,159
Grants & Contributions **	881,459	1,943,565	2,608,490
Other Revenues	180,578	84,036	211,920
Investment Earnings	34,600	40,521	49,737
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$9,636,109</b>	<b>\$10,409,036</b>	<b>\$14,001,575</b>

\* Starting in fiscal year 2016, the City elected to recognize franchise taxes in the General Fund instead of the Capital Projects Fund.

\*\* This large increase can be attributed to a one-time grant received from Wasatch Front Regional Council for a road expansion project totaling 3.1 million dollars.

## Expenses by Service Area - General Fund



Fiscal Year	2014	2015	2016
Police	\$2,319,013	\$2,249,540	\$2,378,992
Administration	1,183,955	1,264,472	1,288,889
Fire	1,467,692	1,480,127	1,615,208
Public Works **	2,381,973	3,431,863	3,533,813
Parks & Recreation	1,044,047	1,116,707	1,442,742
Community & Econ. Dev.	506,987	548,641	593,635
Debt Service	271,256	1,109,642	1,185,573
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$9,174,923</b>	<b>\$11,220,992</b>	<b>\$12,038,852</b>

## Independent Audit

An Independent audit of the City's finances was conducted, resulting in a clean opinion. Complete financial information, including the City's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, can be found at [www.syracuseut.com](http://www.syracuseut.com).

# What's Next? Future Projects and Challenges.

## Property Tax Information

Did you know that Syracuse City only receives about 11.7% of the total property tax you pay each year? The average home value in Syracuse City is approximately \$250,000. Each home owner who lives in their primary residence is given a 45% tax exemption on that home. This means that a home with an appraised value of \$250,000 is only subject to a taxable value of \$137,500. This home is assessed a total property tax of \$1,932.01 each year. Syracuse City only receives \$225.36 or 11.7%. The remainder of the taxes are distributed to other taxing entities as shown below in the table on the left. Davis School District is the largest taxing entity. The average home owner pays \$1,176.31 or 60.9% of their property tax bill to the Davis School District. The table below on the right shows how Syracuse City uses the \$225.36 from the average home to provide services to that home. The police department receives \$60.26 or 26.7% per year and the fire department receives \$41.75 or 18.5% per year. Together, approximately 45.2% of the taxes paid to the city go to fund public safety.

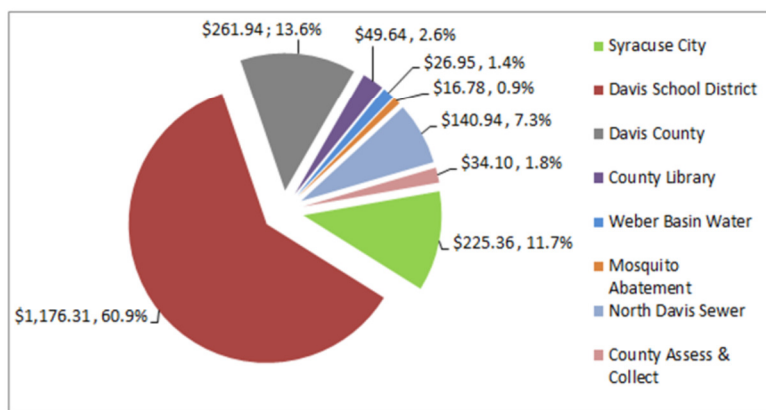
### Resident Property Tax Bill - What is Charged and Where Does It Go?

Average Value of Home in Syracuse: \$ 250,000.00

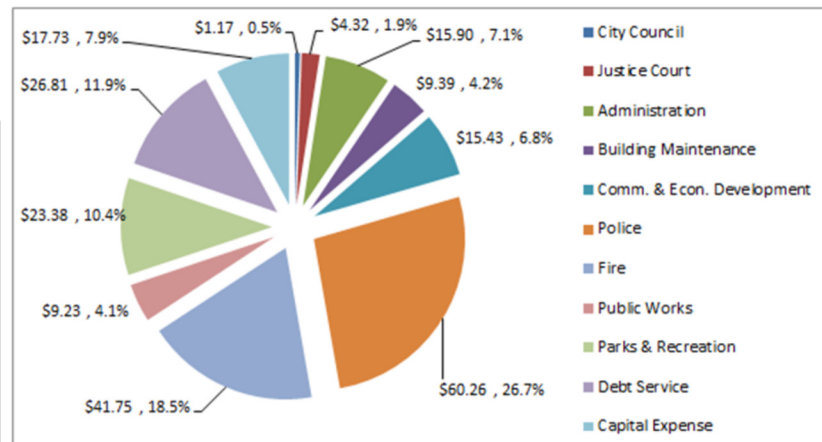
Estimated Taxable Value: \$ 137,500.00

Estimated Property Tax: \$ 1,932.01

### Estimated Total Property Tax Bill - Breakdown by Taxing Entity



### Syracuse City Portion of Tax Bill - Breakdown by Department



## Maintaining Level of Service

One of the biggest challenges that Syracuse city faces is maintaining our level of service to its citizens. The city has grown from a small farming community in 1990 with a population of 4,864, to a thriving bedroom community with a population of approximately 27,000 residents today. We estimate that the City will grow to approximately 35,000 residents in 2025 with a projected build out of approximately 55,000 residents. With a growing city, challenges arise in making sure we maintain a high level of service to our citizens. This means that we will likely need to add staff, equipment, vehicles, and other resources in order to ensure the needs of the citizens will be met. Syracuse City is proud to say that the property taxes in Syracuse are one of the lowest in the surrounding area. We will continue to work hard and strive to keep your taxes low all while providing great service to our citizens.

### We want to hear from you.

Do you like this report? Would you like to see other information? Please let us know by contacting Stephen Marshall @ 801-614-9621 or by email at [smarshall@syracuseut.com](mailto:smarshall@syracuseut.com). For more information on our services, visit our website at [www.syracuseut.com](http://www.syracuseut.com).